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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES
OF OUTER SPACE

REPORT ON THE THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION

Addendum

II. RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS

Ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes

1. The Committee recognized the contribution of the Second Space Conference of the Americas, held at Santiago, Chile, and expressed the view that it constituted an important instrument in the promotion of international cooperation in outer space. In this regard, the Government of Chile provided, for the information of the Committee, the Santiago Declaration, which is contained in annex ___ to the present report.

Progress in national and international space activities related to the Earth environment, in particular progress in the geosphere-biosphere (global change) programme

2. The Committee noted with interest the analytical report prepared by the Secretariat on the role that the Committee could play in view of the decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (A/AC.105/547).

3. The Committee agreed that it could make an important contribution in the area of environment and development by promoting international cooperation in the applications of space technologies for environmental monitoring and sustainable development. In particular, the Committee agreed that the Programme on Space Applications could play an important role in assisting developing countries in strengthening their capabilities in related space technologies and applications through its education, training and technical advisory activities.

4. The Committee noted the role of the Commission on Sustainable Development in monitoring progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 and related activities throughout the United Nations systems through analysis and evaluation of reports from all relevant organs and programmes of the United Nations system. The

Committee also noted the recommendation of the General Assembly that the Commission actively interact with other intergovernmental United Nations bodies dealing with matters related to environment and development. The Committee therefore requested the Secretariat to submit the report to the Commission for its information.

5. The Committee requested the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee to review the report at its next session and to consider further how the Committee might best promote the effective use of space technology, on the basis of international cooperation, for environmental monitoring and sustainable development. To assist the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, the Committee requested the Secretariat to provide the Subcommittee with updated information on the implementation of Agenda 21 by the United Nations system, with information on activities of the Programme on Space Applications related to environment and development, and with suggestions as to how the activities of the Programme on Space Applications in this area might be expanded.

Space and Earth environment

6. The Committee agreed that it should take up the subject of space debris. In this regard, the Committee agreed that under this item the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee would, beginning at its next session, consider scientific research relating to space debris, including relevant studies, mathematical modelling and other analytical work on the characterization of the space debris environment. The Committee therefore recommended that this new item, entitled "Space debris", should be added to the agenda of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee beginning with its next session.